

REMARKS

Claims 1-96 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 15, 21 and 27-32 being independent. Claims 27-96 have been added and claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Support for the amendment to claim 1 may be found in the application at, for example, Figs. 1A and 1C and page 5, lines 14-17. Support for the amendment to claim 15 may be found in the application at, for example, page 5, lines 2-4. Support for the new independent claims may be found in the application at, for example, Figs. 1A-1F and the accompanying text; page 5, lines 2-4; and page 13, lines 2-7 and 10-14. The dependent claims similarly find support. In addition, the specification has been amended to correct a minor error, Fig. 1F has been amended in response to the Examiner's objection, and Fig. 3D has been amended to correct a minor reference label error. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1-6 and 8-20 have been rejected as being anticipated by Yoon.

With respect to claim 1 and its dependent claims, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Yoon does not describe or suggest an arrangement in which the first center line and the second center line are inclined relative to each other in a state where the first housing and the second housing are opened via the hinge, as recited in claim 1. Instead, Yoon describes an arrangement in which the center lines are aligned with one another when the housings are opened. Accordingly, for at least this reason, the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims should be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 15 and its dependent claims, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Yoon does not describe or suggest an arrangement in which each of the first and second housings has a pair of lines opposing each other, one of the pair of lines of the first housing has a shorter length than the other one of the pair of lines of the first housing, and one of the pair of lines of the second housing has a shorter length than the other one of the pair of lines of the second housing, as recited in claim 15. Instead, Yoon describes an arrangement in which the two lines of a particular housing are of the same length. Accordingly, for at least this reason, the rejection of claim 15 and its dependent claims should be withdrawn.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1F and 3D and replace the original sheets including Figs. 1A-1F and 3A-3E.

In Fig. 1F, the second reference to "Center Line B" has been corrected to "Center Line A" in order to be consistent with the other figures.

In Fig. 3D, the reference to element "105" has been changed to "106" in order to be consistent with the remaining other figures.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheets (2 pages)

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (2 pages)

Claims 15 and 19 have been rejected as being anticipated by Wicks. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Wicks, like Yoon, does not describe or suggest an arrangement in which each of the first and second housings has a pair of lines opposing each other, one of the pair of lines of the first housing has a shorter length than the other one of the pair of lines of the first housing, and one of the pair of lines of the second housing has a shorter length than the other one of the pair of lines of the second housing, as recited in claim 15.

Claim 7, which depends from claim 1, has been rejected as being unpatentable over Yoon. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 21-26 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Batio. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Batio does not describe or suggest an arrangement in which each of first and second housings has a trapezoid shape, as recited in independent claim 21, and because, contrary to the assertion made in the rejection, Batio's recitation of a folding portable computer in which one corner of each half is cut off would not have led one of ordinary skill in the art to produce trapezoid shapes or to obtain the benefits of such shapes, such as the benefits discussed in the application at page 2, line 23 to page 3, line 2. Moreover, contrary to the assertion in the rejection, Batio does not disclose "in essence that each housing comprises only one pair of parallel lines." Rather, as shown in Batio's Fig. 1, each housing includes two pairs of parallel sides arranged at right angles to each other, with the only irregularity to the shape being the corner missing from each housing.

Like claim 1, new independent claims 27 and 30 recite that the first center line and the second center line are inclined relative to each other in a state where the first housing and the second housing are opened via the hinge. Similarly, like claim 15, new independent claims 28 and 31 recite an arrangement in which each of the first and second housings has a pair of lines opposing each other, one of the pair of lines of the first housing has a shorter length than the other one of the pair of lines of the first housing, and one of the pair of lines of the second housing has a shorter length than the other one of the pair of lines of the second housing.

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Finally, like claim 21, new independent claims 29 and 32 recite that each housing has a trapezoid shape. Accordingly, each of the new independent claims is allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to the original independent claims.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is a \$4820 check for excess claim fees (\$4700) and the Petition for Extension of Time fee (\$120). Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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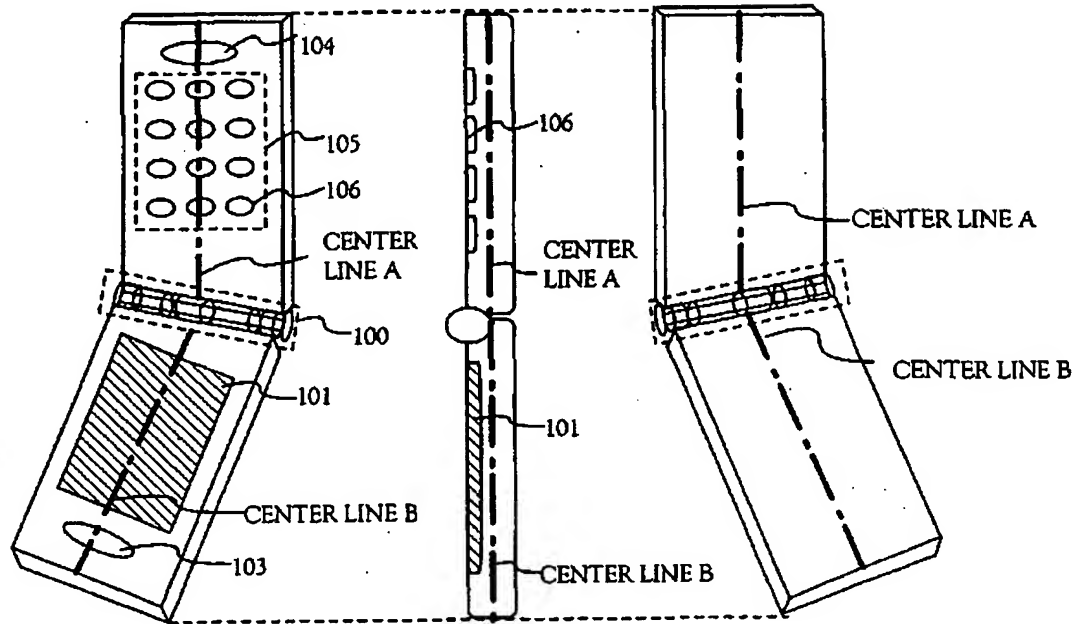
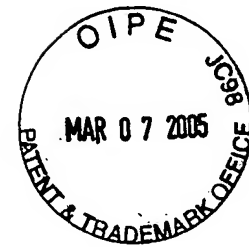


FIG. 1A

FIG. 1B

FIG. 1C

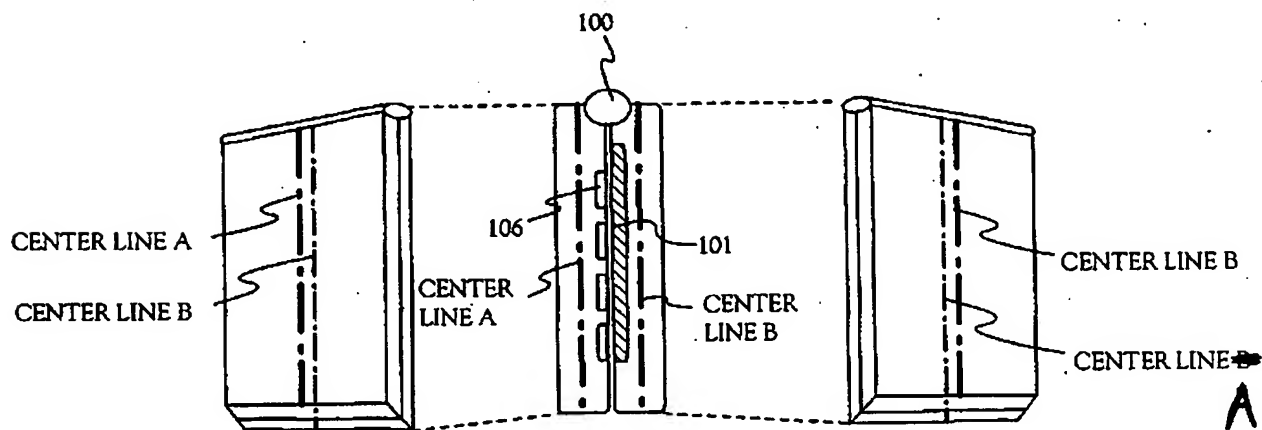


FIG. 1D

FIG. 1E

FIG. 1F

A

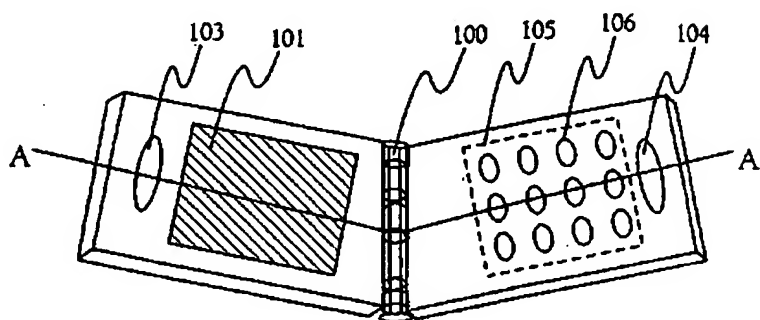
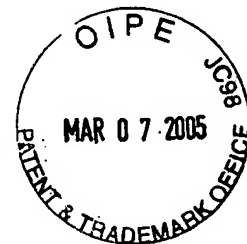


FIG. 3A

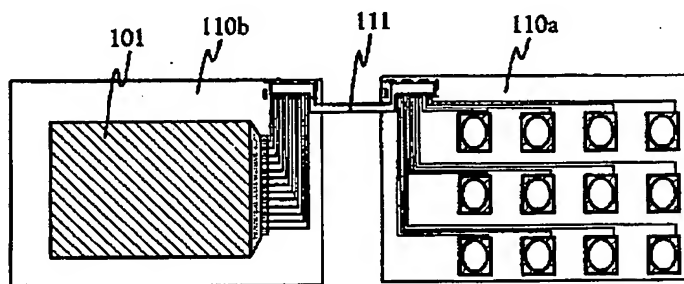


FIG. 3B

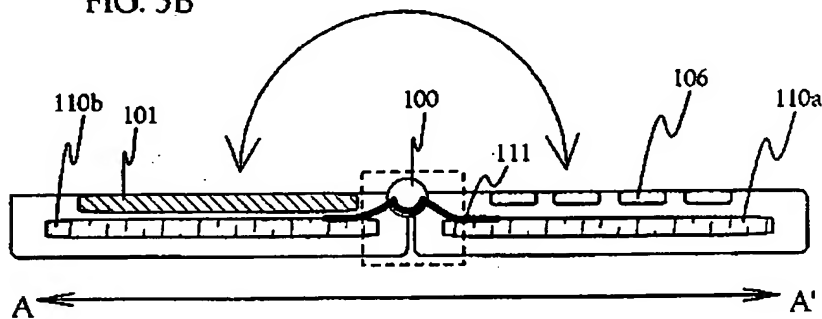


FIG. 3C

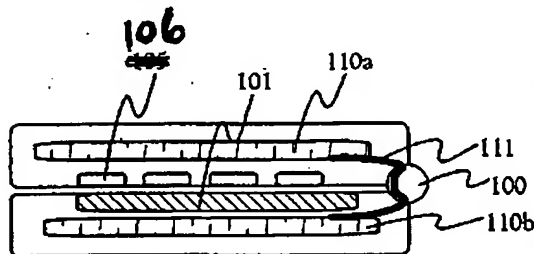


FIG. 3D

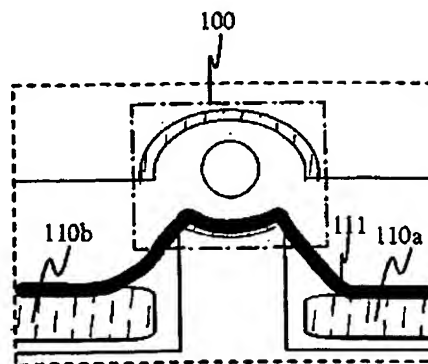


FIG. 3E